

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 MCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SY-05 FBIE-00 JUSE-00 EB-07
TRSE-00 /085 W

-----102633 182159Z /65

R 181357Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1578
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMCONSUL ZAGREB

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 4826

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP, ASEC, US, YO
SUBJECT: QUESTION OF BAIL FOR CROAT TERRORISTS

REF: (A) USUN 2192, (B) BELGRADE 4540

1. YUGOSLAV PRESS IN REPORTING MUJEZINOVIC STATEMENT
TO UN COMMITTEE FOR RELATIONS WITH THE HOST GOVERNMENT,
STILL CONTINUES TO REFER TO "THE DECISION OF THE COURTS
TO RELEASE ON BAIL THE THREE WHO COMMITTED THE TERRORIST
ATTACK", LEAVING IMPRESSION WITH YUGOSLAVS WE HAVE MET
THAT THEY ARE NOW OUT OF JAIL. ENGLISH-LANGUAGE TANJUG
PRESS RELEASE ALSO SAYS COURTS " DECIDED TO RELEASE ON
BAIL" THE THREE TERRORISTS.

2. MUJEZINOVIC'S STATMENT ALSO ACCUSED THE US OF
A "DOUBLE STANDARD" IN REFUSING BAIL WHEN AMERICAN
PROPERTY AND LIFE WAS INVOLVED (THE TWA HIJACKING), BUT
GRANTING IT WHEN IT IS A QUESTION OF THE YUGOSLAV
MISSION AND A YUGOSLAV SECURITY GUARD. WE HAVE
RECOLLECTION THAT BAIL WAS IN FACT SET IN TWA
CASE, BUT WE ARE UNABLE TO CONFIRM THIS FROM
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EMBASSY FILES. WE ASSUME THAT EVEN IF BAIL WAS
NOT GRANTED IT WAS BECAUSE OF THE MORE SERIOUS
NATURE OF THE CRIME.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE
STATUS REPORT ON THE THREE TERRORISTS; IF THEY ARE
STILL IN CUSTODY, WE INTEND TO LODGE A PROTEST HERE

AGAINST THESE MISSTATEMENTS IN THE PRESS. IN THIS
PROTEST EMBASSY WILL ALSO NOTE THAT MUJEZINOVIC
DISTORTED THE FACTS OF THE TWA CASE, AND THEREFORE
WE REQUEST THAT DEPARTMENT CLARIFY THE CIRCUMSTANCES
SURROUNDING GRANTING OF BAIL AT THAT TIME; WHETHER
GRANTED OR NOT, AMOUNT, AND IF NOT, LEGAL REASONS
THEREFOR.
EAGLEBURGER

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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